

REMARKS

Claims 14-16, and 18-31 are pending.

Election/Restrictions

The Examiner imposed an additional restriction requirement, in that Applicant is required to elect on species in claims 14 and 31.

In the interest of moving the examination forward, Applicant elects the species of claim 14, directed to having a tie layer comprising a secondary drug-containing reservoir. However, Applicant submits that the species of claim 14 and claim 31 can be efficiently searched by the Examiner without undue burden to the Examiner. Applicant requests the Examiner to reconsider the restriction requirement.

All pending elected claims (i.e., 14-16, 18-23, and 25-30) can be examined under the elected invention of claim 14.


CONCLUSION

Applicant submits the pending claims are novel and nonobvious over prior art and comply with the requirements of 35 USC §101 and §112. The examination and passage to allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested. An early Notice of Allowance is therefore earnestly solicited. Applicant invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at (650) 564-7054 to clarify any unresolved issues raised by this response.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this paper or during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 10-0750.

Respectfully submitted,

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